

FOCUS ON COUNTY GOVERNMENT

MONTHLY UPDATE FROM THE DESK OF WAUKESHA COUNTY EXECUTIVE
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Dear Friends,

On January 31st, I had the opportunity to welcome attendees to the second Waukesha County Access to Capital Event where ten organizations in the County presented information about new developments in local, regional and State of Wisconsin financing incentives/programs available to Waukesha County businesses. The Waukesha County Small Business Leverage Loan Program, which launched last year, was among the highlighted programs.

I am very proud of this program, which has had a very successful first year. Under the County's Leverage Loan Program, businesses are able to borrow up to \$50,000 to help fill their capital requirements to secure larger funding needs through banks and other financial sources. In 2012, \$190,000 of Leverage Loan funds were used to create a projected 30 jobs in Waukesha County for expansion projects totaling nearly \$3 million.

At the Access to Capital Event, one of the businesses benefitting from the Leverage Loan Program, a Pewaukee marketing company, presented on their success. This quickly growing and fascinating business took advantage of a \$50,000 loan from the program, which in turn helped them secure a private bank loan for \$1.2 million. These dollars have helped the company grow their business and create an additional 10 full-time jobs.

I am certain that in the coming months and years there will be numerous, additional success stories from this program.

Sincerely,

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WILD WINTER NIGHTS AT RETZER NATURE CENTER

Retzer Nature Center, S14 W28167 Madison Street in Waukesha, will hold its annual Wild Winter Night from 6:00 to 9:00 p.m. on Saturday, February 2.

Enjoy guided winter night hikes throughout the evening, free snowshoe rentals (snow permitting) and an informal sing-along by a warm campfire with s'mores and hot cocoa. There will be indoor activities like the Shoe Box Relay Race, make a Nocturnal Pillow Box Owl and make your own Glow-in-the-Dark Goo. Explore the winter sky with telescopes, as well as an indoor Planetarium program entitled "Galileo."

The guided Owl Prowl hikes are scheduled for 6:45 and 8:15 p.m. Learn about the owl and other nocturnal animals.

Please note planetarium shows are limited to 90 people per show, and are on a first-come, first-served basis. Tickets will be distributed beginning at 6:00 p.m. Show times are every half-hour starting at 6:30, 7:00, 7:30 and 8:00 p.m.

This event is held no matter what the weather, so please dress accordingly. There are a limited number of snowshoes available so there may be a waiting time. A fee of \$2.00 per person is payable at the door. No pre-registration is required. Log onto www.waukeshacountyparks.com for more information.

DISPATCHER ASSISTS WITH BABY DELIVERY

On December 19th, Waukesha County dispatcher Sara Schallert, helped Sarah Young of New Berlin deliver her third child. With her husband on his way home from work to take her to the hospital, Young's labor began to progress very quickly. Young's sister called 9-1-1 and the call was answered by Schallert. Schallert immediately began walking Young's sister through emergency childbirth procedures, as directed by the new Communications Center automated dispatch system. The sister relayed instructions to Young, while Schallert calmly assured them they were doing a good job.

As Schallert answered the priority call, the system automatically, internally routed to the New Berlin Fire and Police dispatch, notifying them of the situation and location. The baby was coming fast. Schallert gave instructions attempting to slow down the progression until emergency medical personnel could arrive, however, within minutes of the call Young delivered her baby.

Schallert gave instructions to get a towel and begin cleaning the baby when the New Berlin Fire Department Emergency Medical Technician's arrived to finish the task and get mom and baby Isabella to the hospital.

On January 16th, Young brought baby Isabella to the Waukesha County Communications Center to meet Schallert, New Berlin Fire Chief Lloyd Bertram and the New Berlin Fire and Rescue team.

Schallert was presented with the traditional Waukesha County Communications Center stork pin for any dispatcher who assists with the birth of a baby. The department presented baby Isabella with a pink "onesy" imprinted with "Waukesha County 911."

"Waukesha County: Leading the Way ..."

EXTREME COLD

In the month of January, Waukesha County and much of Wisconsin and the United States experienced extreme cold.

Your best defense against the extreme temperatures is to stay indoors, but if you must head outside, remember to bundle up with multiple layers of clothing. In addition to wearing a tightly woven winter coat, a scarf, hat and gloves will go a long way toward keeping you safe against the elements. In severe temperatures, frostbite can occur on exposed skin in as little as 10 minutes, so adding those extra layers of protection is your best defense against the wind and cold. If you notice a loss of feeling and a white or pale appearance in your fingers, toes, ears or the tip of your nose, you may need to seek medical help right away.

Hypothermia, a deadly condition, occurs when a person's body temperature drops below 95 degrees Fahrenheit. Warning signs of hypothermia include uncontrollable shivering, disorientation, slurred speech and drowsiness. Seek medical care immediately if you experience any of these symptoms.

Cold weather also puts an added strain on your body. Activities like shoveling snow or pushing a car can bring on a heart attack or worsen an existing condition.

For additional winter safety tips, visit <http://ReadyWisconsin.wi.gov>

HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES BUILDING UPDATE

The new Waukesha County Health and Human Services building is well underway and expected to be open and operating this fall.

The exterior façade is nearly complete as terra cotta installation is finishing up and windows have been installed. We-Energies has completed the connection to the building for permanent power and the transformer has been installed. When needed, this system is ready to be turned on.

Mechanical, electrical and plumbing rough-ins are completed in the first floor walls and above the drywall ceilings. This, combined with having a temperature controlled building, has allowed the drywall to start enclosing most of the ground floor. In the next week, the remainder of the building is expected to be completed so that drywall work can continue.

Measuring for the cabinets and counters has taken place so that materials can be ordered and their manufacturing can begin. Also, measuring for furniture has begun.

On the exterior of the building, bus stop canopy foundations have been poured and landscaping is expected to begin in the spring.



The HHS Building's exterior façade is nearly complete.

“Waukesha County: Leading the Way ...”

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ZOO-INTERCHANGE UPDATE

The Wisconsin Department of Transportation is beginning the reconstruction of the Zoo Interchange which is certain to impact Waukesha County residents. The boundaries of the Zoo Interchange reconstruction are Burleigh Street on the north; 70th Street on the east, Lincoln Avenue to the south; and 124th Street (the Waukesha County Line) to the west.

In addition to the core of the interchange where US 45, I-894 and I-94 meet, the reconstruction project includes interchanges at Greenfield Avenue, Bluemound Road/Wisconsin Avenue, Watertown Plank Road, Highway 100, North Avenue, 84th Street and reconnecting to Lincoln Avenue and 70th Street.

The reconstruction plan will improve safety and efficiency on adjacent roadways on Highway 100 (Mayfair Road), Bluemound Road, Watertown Plank Road and Glenview Avenue/84th Street.

Work on off-freeway roads will accommodate traffic during the reconstruction of the freeway system and improve operations on heavily traveled roads.



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DRUG COLLECTION: SAVE-THE-DATE

Waukesha County Drug Free Communities will be holding a countywide prescription drug collection on Saturday, April 27th in an effort to reduce prescription drug abuse and accidental poisonings in Waukesha County as well as help protect local waterways. Residents are invited to bring unwanted prescription medication, over the counter medication, ointments, sprays, inhalers, creams, vials, herbals and pet medications to the Waukesha County Drug Collection.

Drop off your items on Saturday, April 27th between 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. at the following eight locations:

- Community Memorial Hospital, Menomonee Falls
- D.N. Greenwald Center, Mukwonago
- Oconomowoc Memorial Hospital, Oconomowoc
- Highway Department Recycling Center, Brookfield
- WCTC, Pewaukee
- Waukesha State Bank, Downtown Waukesha
- Muskego Police Department, Muskego

For more information visit: waukeshacounty.gov/drugcollection

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